

Congressman
J. Randy Forbes
Fourth District of Virginia



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Christine Shott
(202) 225-6365

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Forbes announces \$300,000 for dredging of Pagan River
House passes 2004 Energy & Water Appropriations Conference Report

Washington, D.C. – Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04) announced that **\$300,000** would be appropriated for dredging of the Pagan River, as part of the 2004 Energy & Water Appropriations Conference Report passed by the House of Representatives today.

On behalf of Smithfield, Forbes requested funding for dredging of the Pagan River from the House Appropriations Committee.

The Pagan River is a tributary of the James River. The Pagan River navigation channel requires maintenance dredging to remove hazardous shoals along the waterway. Funding in the amount of \$300,000 will be used to prepare plans and specifications, and advertise and award a dredging contract for the Pagan River Navigation Project.

"The Pagan River channel dredging is very important to our commercial vessels and the tourism industry, which brings a growing number of recreational boaters here to our colonial seaport town. We offer many thanks to Congressman Forbes for his persistence on this much needed and long awaited Army Corps project," stated Peter Stephenson, Smithfield Town Manager.

"Funding for this project is wonderful news for Smithfield and for the entire Fourth District of Virginia, especially during the tough times we are in as a nation and amidst tight budgetary constraints across the Commonwealth," Forbes said.